4th February 1925]

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—"May I know, Sir, if the next turn of being deprived of the privilege of electing its chairman is that of the municipality of Cuddapah?" (Cries of 'Order, order.')

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar :—"With regard to clause (i), may I know whether the Government took into consideration the resolutions passed at the public meeting held on the 28th August 1924?"

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar :—"Does the hon. Minister mean that the resolutions or communications have not been forwarded to the Government?"

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—"No."

Suit regarding the chairmanship of Dindigul municipality.

* 59 Q.—Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the suit instituted in the Sub-Court at Madura by Mr. M. J. Muhammad Meera Sahib Bahadur for declaration of the chairmanship has been disposed of;

(b) if not, whether the Government considered the advisability of withdrawing the privilege, when the question between the rival candidates for chairmanship was *sub judice*;

(c) whether there was any civil revision petition pending in the High Court at the beginning of this year in connexion with the councillorship of Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu, one of the rival candidates for the chairmanship;

(d) whether any Adi-Dravida councillor tendered his resignation in April 1924;

(e) if so, whether it was in order;

(f) whether any letter of resignation was sent by the Adi-Dravida councillor to the Collector of Madura;

(g) whether the nomination of Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu to the councillorship was got by telegram from the Government by the Collector; and

(h) if so, the urgency for the same?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b), (c) & (d) The answer is in the affirmative.

(e) Presumably it was.

(f) The Government have no information.

(g) & (h) A telegram was issued to the Collector in addition to the usual Government Order approving the appointment of Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu. The Government are not prepared to give any further information.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"With reference to clauses (g) and (h) of this question, may I ask whether there is any practice of sending telegrams to Collectors with regard to appointments and if not why was it so done in this case?"

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—"Sometimes telegrams are sent."

Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar :—"With regard to the same clauses the answer says that a telegram was sent approving the appointment of Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu. Was Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu appointed by the Collector?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The Collector recommended the name of Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu and the Government approved the recommendation.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" Was Mr. Ramaswami Nayudu elected as a member of the Council and was his election declared invalid by a court of law ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" That was what the Government came to know subsequently."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" Is it a fact that when the question was the subject of adjudication in a civil revision petition pending in the High Court Government nominated him as a member of council ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know if the Government had no information at the time that the decision was being questioned in the High Court ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Even if the Government had information there is no objection to such a case being considered by the Government."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know from the Government whether as a matter of policy they are going to appoint as municipal councillors persons whose elections are being questioned in the highest tribunal of the land ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There is no question of policy involved in the matter."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Then, was it an exception ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It is not an exception ; all that I can say is that it may be so."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Then I take it therefore that what is generally done is policy."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what would have been the attitude of the Government if the election had been held valid ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It is a hypothetical question and cannot be answered."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not a fact that the Government take into consideration in making nominations whether a person is already a councillor or not ? "

Vacancy in the Cocanada Taluk Board.

* 60 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. D. V. S. Prakasa Rao was elected to a vacancy on the Cocanada Taluk Board on 14th May 1924 ;

(b) whether the President of the Godavari District Board did not send his name to the gazette for publication but submitted a report for the Government requesting them to cancel the election ;